

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 – 13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method to secure two sections of bone in a transverse bone fracture or an osteotomy with a bioabsorbable band system, comprising:
- providing a bioabsorbable band system, comprising:
 - a bioabsorbable band having a first end and a second end;
 - a first locking system comprising at least one bioabsorbable fastener; and
 - a second locking system comprising at least one bioabsorbable fastener;
 - locking the first end of the band to a first surface of a bone with the first locking system;
 - then wrapping the second end of the band around ~~side edges of the bone;~~
 - then stretching tightening the band to secure the two sections ~~both sides~~ of the bone in the transverse bone fracture or the osteotomy fracture together; and
 - then locking the second end of the band to a second surface of the bone.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein locking the first end of the band further comprises drilling at least one hole through the first end of the band into the first surface of the bone, and inserting a fastener in said hole.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein locking the second end of the band further comprises drilling at least one hole through the second end of the band and into the second surface of the bone, and inserting a fastener in said hole.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein drilling further comprises drilling the hole through the first end of the band.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein wrapping further comprises inserting a needle attached to the second end of the band through a tissue to be drawn together with the bone.
19. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the first end and the second end overlap.
20. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the first surface and the second surface are coplanar.
21. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the band encircles the two sections of the bone fracture or the osteotomy.
22. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the band consists of a single layer.
23. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the band is elastic.